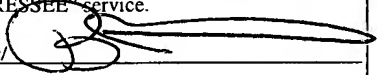


PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)	Liepold et al.	Examiner:	Unassigned
Application No.:	Unassigned	Group Art Unit:	Unassigned
Confirmation No.:	Unassigned	Docket:	1350-3 PCT/US
Filed:	Herewith	Dated:	January 31, 2006
For:	A VALVE	Date:	January 31, 2006 Label No. EV749581628US

I hereby certify that on the date indicated above I deposited this paper or fee with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to the Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 by "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE to ADDRESSEE" service.

Signed: Barbara Thomas 

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING
NATIONAL PHASE FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. §371**

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this submission.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this submission.

Remarks begin on page 14 of this submission.